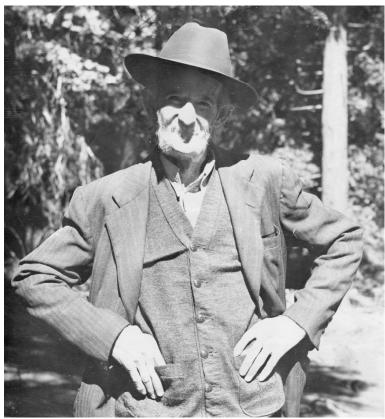
Trip to San Jacinto Peak Robert Haley Asher



Robert Haley Asher, September 9, 1945

Robert Haley Asher was born 28 March 1868, to Josephus Marion Asher, who was the first commercial nurseryman in the San Diego area, providing buyers with fruit trees, shrubs, and vines from his Fruit Vale ranch in Paradise Valley, National City. Robert Asher settled on Palomar Mountain in 1903, and ultimately had 160 acres, living in the Pauma Creek / State Park area. Robert Asher also lived off Palomar Mountain part of the year working as a nurseryman. On Palomar, Asher took and sold photographs of summer campers, trapped animals for pelts, collected and sold wild plants, picked apples, and worked odd jobs. Asher moved off Palomar Mountain in 1946 to his sister Mrs. Josephine A. Vacher's place on Fuerte Drive in El Cajon and continued to visit Palomar Mountain until 1951. Asher donated land to the Baptist Church in 1933, more land came along later from him, and this was the beginning of the present day Palomar Christian Conference Center. Asher passed away on 25 April 1953 at age 85.

These digitized pages are from the Robert Haley Asher papers (held by Peter Brueggeman). When Josephine Vacher's son vacated the family house in El Cajon, the family gave Robert Asher materials at that location to Peter, due to his Palomar Mountain history interests. Digitization of these materials and posting them to the Internet Archive is intended to enhance and preserve access to these materials.

The final three pages seem to be a synopsis with comments, and date it to June 1903. "When, in 1903, an influential group of Los Angeles citizens, concerned about forests and watershed protection, approached the University of California, President Benjamin Wheeler called upon Jepson and Professor Arnold Stubenrauch of the agriculture department(?) to conduct what turned out to be a very successful forestry summer camp at Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. The 10 lectures which Jepson delivered dealt with "Life-history of a Tree," "Classification of Forest Trees," and "Forests of California."" FROM: Willis Linn Jepson -- "The Botany Man" Richard G. Beidleman, 2000. https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/history/biog/jepson/jepson_the_botany_man.html

MARY The Trip to San Jacinto Peak. The forces started in less then a hundred yards after leaving the stable. The doubley was at the end of a picket rope and was supposed to trail along behind the horse, but he became ambition and tried to get ahead, I shoved him back a time or two and then he was of on a tangent to the left. There was a big oak tree beside the road. The douber Tried to get ahead on one side of the vak, The horse on the other, Both came to a half before may arms were gampletely pulled out of their sockets. and there the three of us stuck, I pulled and jerked on the rape, but the bouldary wouldn't budge. Finally, I jumped off my steed, and coared my asinine friend abound to where he belonged a back of the horse, 'I then remonted and remarked Gidago. Nothing happened, bet day I repeated slapping the horses plank with the slack of the picket rope. Still nothing boing and hor on for several minutes. Then my patience gave out I jupped off and led the two animals back to the stable. I would have severn that I had seen some grinning faces in the boarway, but when I arrived there the staleman greeted me quiste soberly. "Why "Why! What's the matter?" "Plenty" I grented I'm done. Here take your line stucks !" "Chnow that's forming" said the stable as he backed away from the proffered ropes. That'very. funny!" "Well it isn't funny to me . non were watching. "your saw what they did . If that's funny - " "Here here Hold your horses - 9 man your huss and jackans. Course & seen what that has was about, and that's what's frany I never seen him do sich fool Trick before - en . Here, let me help you on again again." and the next thing I busic I was in the saddle and my friend was who cherry the how with a convertent good sized stick "Hoss" went forward, boukey trailed behind, and all was lovely until we were about helf Way to the Hotel. Then the donkey repeated the sand trick he liad put over before "But the article at the Hotel and the

I plandits of an admiring andiance condisting of two local gentlemen whoo were unloading a wagen full of fire wood. I guoring the mirth, but silently boiling inside, I load the deffe onto the douber's saddle and was off, with the Johens still Anickering. How, if any one has ever been over the Tanguity Trail of those days he will know that is very steep for one this, and the steepners is not confined to the trail itself but that the mountain on either side is also steep. When I arrived at the faut of the sleep part of the trail I first made sure that my professors had passed on before then I wrapped the purchey's picket rupe around and around his neck, and turned him loose in the trail ahead of the horse, For awhile all went well, Donkey Trudge dahed These an angel, and horse followed after at just the right pace to match the doubergs. Then the brush thinked out on the lower side, and Mr. Donkey went slipping and slider to the battom of the campon ! arrived there appardently none the worse, he stands out down the creek bed toward. the Hotel. I gat my hopse around and down to the foot of the trail and over ty the creek. There I followed the double's very plain tracks for quite a distance, but did not see any dowling. I had just poncluded that douber was clear back to the stables by that time when ? came upon him in a cul-desac in the brush, He could have gone back and around, the had wanted to, but there he was quite mable to go ahead in the only direction the had any desire to go. My understanding had been that the professors were towait for me in Tanquity Valley, but when I arrived there was no response to my repeated yells. There were two trails to the Peak ant of Tanguity, and I had told then that I would fear Tanguity via the how Canyon Theil, and not by the Hidden Lake Thail over which I had never been. So I proceeded to the foot of the Long Campon Thail. It was well past noon, and

by all rules of the game known to me, I should have founde my professors impetienty awaiting my avoid with Their lunch. at the time, I did not benow that when they left the hotel they were supplied with lunches. I semply waited and waited. I was plenty hundry, but it wouldn't have been polite for the guide to eat before his quests aring all would it? There was no pest horse in star human tracks about . Time passed lafter 2 o'clock. No reply to yells. I concluded that they must have decided on takey the Hidden Labe Trail. So I pastely part slowed my the Lang Canyou Trail. Thad appoint reached the top place appendent "I gave him to Jungers" "What for?" "Well, I unbris horse laid down, and fumbro couldn't get him tip again so he could ride him so I gave him mine." But where have you been all this time I yelled ad yelled and waited how for you at the faut by the trail. "I know it was a mean truck to play on you, but when we gat to the arest of Sol good and the sidetrip took longer than they bigured on. Jepson says for us not to wait for them, Zumbroha, formel a new lupme. Let's be moving! We moved, letter about leading Sir Doutsey - one doutsey leading another doutsey lent not both falling in the ditch together because the four-legged donkey behaved beautifully, so beautifully in fact, that Studenharch & presed considerable scepticism when I related my told him what I had been through the dumble aded contrariners of horse and jackars, "Why are, both animals, as far as I can see, are performing to any on sure

that was the last cobble stone that we ched the schooner that , an afraid that I was not very communicative for autile But when I sugested that a storm was reging toward the desert and when we came to Round Valley I suggested that we leave a note for Jepson and gu down to tamarack Valley where there was an old cabin we could take repige in if it should rain. Slutenrapch agreed that it would be a food plan to carrys there for the night. But on arrival we found no shates that the your was nimes shake and so was quite open to the spy, It was almost dark when tome with the two houses " whendo queried Stuber reach" Some home with the two houses " the perform, "When we the tats? do we lat?" We seek had " a haddle - blanket to ever ourselves up in that hight. But it was warm and & slept completely oblivious to the storm with a rear-hy clap brought me up sieting fully awape. The whole castern sky was delay with plasting of continued lightenags and the reflections from the clouds, The thunders were likewise continuous like the roarings of a the mendous surf on some prehistoric shope - if you know what atrat is like, I glanced at my watch. I P. M. to the dot. We were all the fully bressed, ho I lay back in the ground, with my thought ling on what to do when the storm struck, Soon a big drap of main fell dead center shot on my nose. My splutterings brought Stubenrauch awake: "What's happened? What's the truble asher?" Ran!" By that Time the drops were coming fast. "Whe had better get into the calin " suggested Stubenanch," yes." 90 assented. "and we'd beller fix our saddle blackets over "Thibe Ste agreed, and helped board me up on the hoad. although the shake were game, rafters and sheeling were still in, I arrayed myblanhet in place. Sluberranch then handed me ting and turned to get Jep son. But there was no Jepson! He had namished utterly, the called repeatedly, but the only reply came from the crashings of The thender, which was well nigh deafening, "Let him go." finally concluded stubenrands." Let him get wet good and plenty. We should

worry, and, by bearge we will warry. Look at all that wales will you!" sure mongh, inside the cabin, directly under the blankets I had so carefully arranged, was a sheet of water makes deep already. But there were some loose timbers handy and we managed to chiving them into place unter our need t say it - now dryping blankets. Well this surely looks like Lang weather said Stubenranch as he grigerly balance d himself in one of the Timbers, Well, we two slood there a dadnined the severy through the open door militan. and it certainly wave scenen !! Tamarack W Valley is a title lake-like depression in the mountainside, with a little flat meadow of grass about an acre in extent, the grass extending right up to the foot of a panpart of Tall tamarde here. The rain was falling startimise across the tree - trucks, while the lighten giggaged in the heavens above a dti right and to the left - in front - everywhere - illuminate the said and the tree trimbs with put a wierd light were to be forgotton - the trumba standing out like columns of askes of roses marke against the rubby dark of the depths of the Great beyond. Tiple and again Stubenrarch admitted that he was wet - wet through - but that it was small price to pay for being permitted to view one of great shows of Nature at its grandest - a show exceeding in grandeour and splendidness anything he had over seen in hils tipe, Dawn came. The hand ceased . The show was over. Two drowned rate stepped out of doors - out-o-doors: - who ever said outo doors! It was weller indoors! It least it seemed so. Water does dis appear so quickly from the loose grante soil of these primative So. Calif ites! We husled about, found some dry slicks meder an overhanging slove, perhaps it was some of the dead stalks of the white sage old late had preving told me abant. aturn rate, we gut a teriske fire going, a fivere ingaged in an effort to our persons out a bit when the comes Her conferror stalking into camp Willis L. Jepson dry as a time

(4) "When do we gat?" he inquired quity in ocenter that stracoon Canel Hon Professor Stuben rancho back. We mill draw the epittering here for awhile the We may us well draw the chirthant, for With the coming of the sun, and hat coffee, have agas sto under our belts studied flegan to feel more cheerful. Even little Stubenhand became give jocular. and if Jepson objected to bein classed as a genuine bred-in-the-bone aborigine the kept this trought to himself, and when we started for the Peak the girls off an a lark. They became chummer and chummer as we be mile arguard until it struck all of a sudden that they they the third fabled third perior who makes a crowd - and I light felt real hurt about fit. god I kept feeling hurter and hurter, and wetter and spetter, and miserabiller and miserabiller until I came to a speden decision to end it all right then and there. Hastenif up to the two I present my oral resignation - said resignation to take effect immediately it was going home to camp. I fuas going above sains dowley. I would the the picket-rape around the downey weak, give him a whack on his runny - and would quarantee that he would get home to the stable longary of us would be half-way down the trail. Jepson passimed his stemest aspect. asher the promulgated, you are going to stay with that mutil you deliver him in person at the stables." and with that he gain started up the trail. Well-was any unruly student ever squelched like this one?" The I am going to stay to make a fite and dry and " There was no response to This sally, and is just what there On the return tip we not Lund we met Lundow near the top of the Long langer Theil, and decided to stop there for lunch , after lunch I made another appeal to Jepson for permission to turn the doubergn. I might as well have addressed old San Gor-

gonio Rak for all the encouragement or sympathing ! got. However, When we had sverything on the dankey again and were ready to start, Jepson issued marching orders; - "yun arnold, go along with asher on the worse and help him Mucessary with the burro. I umbro and I are going down a deferant way. There are some hupma west of here we want abserved Suberrayge are dected stated manimously this and statings Donkey and harse and professor and what have you that alians called asher proceeded in a procession down the trail ad across Tanguts Valley to head of Tanguty, all very amicabably and peaceably frifindly-like - Stubenhandh on his. Fahran, my horse, asher tedding a quite boale donkey, asher and Stubennauch chatting on wareous subjects - Trees, the tanguity Rack and the alleged skeping pleanor flower, worses and men. That brought us to the subject of certain horses hying down with thee full-grown platessors on their backs. Stutenhandh lafred. Jepson warned Lunfors and myself to beep num, but you are one of us, theand say, That mor yesterday marining after leaving the Hotel we lopt our may, and it was an hour so before we finally found the fail of the trail. I fancy the horses had become quite disgusted with such proceedings by that time, for when we reached the steep party were last may ley down in this tracks, that's the truth! Luckity more a suffered any mynus It was fucky that no one was injured, but is probable the nags were experters and knew just how to settle down without injury to riders. We got them an their feet again and monited ; But when we tried to get then going ahead again, down again they went. So the led the twice areagnes all the way to day Canyon where we found your note thousand on ahead. I poss lighted more over that note than a little. But allowing those horses

To work us that way was absund. If course we werenot entirely at fault. These houses have undoubtedy played the same trick an many other riders, who had laid down they Job of ridide just as certainly as the mounts had laid down their gobs of carrying their riders up the trail, including the steep parts, If ever & see that stableman I shall talk to him like a Sutch - " begparden gas interesting in the delivery of the lecture, Stuben ranch's my thouse, lay down right in the trail Stubenrand tarded extricated himself and without a word Stapped the horse to its feet and again which ello Down went horse again Stubenranch whent, with color norm rising to his cheeks. Horse jurked the horse up. again he mounted ad sain horse lay down, "I give up grunted Stubenhanch and I beg your pardan for what I said yesterday "For the life of me I can't see how you had the pelience to ted metto tele your these twos animals. By the way, Jepson the gave the word that when we reach the hotel we are thank. Reep our months spirit about the happening on this trip." I assured him that no lady reparter would ever get a aqueak out of me. Hon did she. Har the other one. hor neither one out of Studeenrauch, But Jepson must have a drapped a text hift on two. He was dancing with the back reported that evening at the hotel. He must have because when the story of Phafferson in the Rai " came out in a certai newspaper, there was a very good were certain parts of the stary that could have from none other than an eye-witness. But there other exceedingly interesting parts that could i not have ariginated in other than the firther imagination of 7 certain young hady reparter, Warking With Donaldson Early in the following week one of the hotel suployees informed me that a man with whiskers and long hair had been looking

I for me, and had left word that he was camping in they danyon. No further information was forth comes I couldn't imagine who the man with whiskers and long hair - especiale long hair, could passibly But my informant was firm in his declaration that the man ruanted Robert asher, and none other. Still pupped, I decided to make camp in Sily campon with I should hear from Donaldson, and I took my bedding sterp to dily campon the man with - the long - hair proved to be none other than Donaldson himself, with his two sisters . Its Course, Weas free. While in this camp ? had no hand in the cooking which was well, since all three of the Donaldsons were cooks. One morning the nuch had a strange plavor. In fact, it had more than a more flavor, He decided that binte stilling salty. Too dalty. Much too salty, Having abrived inquired gravely of the nearest lady "Did you salt the much?" "I did " she said as gravely Dister" repeated Sonaldson, Turing to the other lady: " Did you saft the numsh?" "I did!" "Well. continued Donaldson," falted the much myself. That makes store Time. We will have a figh men of mush, I think." I was with the Donaldson's squeral days in the Lily Daugon Camp, then Donaldson saddled up one of his horses as a pack animal, and the two of ins structiont for the Thomas Ranch for acertain varely species of calochorty The main road passed strongh Keen Cany, but before reaching Ken's camp, Sonaldson, who was leading, made a detour, passing the camp some quarter of a wile to the south. Thad sugested that we go through the camp, to get some desired article at the stone there, but Sonaldson greeted my suggesti with silence - and the detour. avived near Thromas Valley we secured our quota of Calachortus Later Concolor ad started on our return Tiljs, with our quota of Calochortus Palmeri still Barel, started. We found a title grass dale feading westavard, and on one side, between several Dig pine

we ran across a thickly growing colony of the calochon. this we were seeking. The main part of the bed was very nearly square 36 ft across and very nearly square. While Donaldson was trying up the pack animal of took Any pick and roughly outlined the thick growing part. suggested that we mine for the bulles instead of diging out each one separately. Donaldson agreed. So I makked a fine with my pick across the center of the square. What are you doing that for? inquired Donaldson sharply." Mining dains. This is my claim, and that is yours, "all nonsense!" gruntfa Sanaldson, all right, I said, This is your claim, and that is nine. and without further parley I stepped to my claim" and struck the pick into the ground, and pried out a bit of earth . a second and a third stroke, and I uncovered a fittle lake that looked file lioney." See what Fire found. I called out to Donaldsof, still a bit surly, conceded a "Well, what?" "Lowbs file honey" "Can't be honey" "What is then?" I demanded slamaning the pick into the groud again. I noticed a yellow jacket buying around near my knees, but gave no head as I again slammad the point of the pick home. This time ? noted about a dozen of the insects, another strates of the pick, and "suddenly realized that I had ruden disturbed, a yellow-jacket, and that there well about a million them bunping into the that between a first in them bunping into the many head I made dash for the hearby brush madly slapping at the infunialed meets with the white carp. after siggaging through the manyanite for about twenty minutes I decided that I had at last duded the enemy, and as 9

I was quite winded, sat down to catch my breath. 203 to I replaced my cap. Vain delusion. No Sooner had sis the cap settled down over my fevered brows, than, bang! a yellow jacket! another, and another 's singly involved away pour that place accelerate minched hose Bis made sure of imminity of further attack, I was some signal a mile up the mountainside north of my state 33 struinen claim. I figured that Donaldson had probably 3 semoned down the draw to the west, so I manonvered Bis around and to the lower end of the draw and cantionly worked up. But no Davaldson: meaking from the to the I finally heard the third that of a pick. It was been find the third that the pick. It was Donaldson busily digging a pus on the first the delow 283 Jackets were in sight, and although be had been so close is to me in the begining, more had deigned to molest him Side as down to the Say Jacinto Mountain some years signas down the way he slupped over at Los angeles and on the way he slupped over at Los angeles to the see Donaldson under write me that Donaldson is was stilling lenghing thater running and slamming at signa air with him white cap. Well, its real nice that some 3 23 one had some fun, and it is possible that it was that Selfsame white cap that saved my life: - the cap formalied 333 the bright and shining mark for yellow-jadset marksman 333 the bright and shining mark for yellow-padset marksman 333 ship, We finished digging the call chorters. But I was fearing Town in the month. Dohaldson had beaten me two to drein the number he dry per blang. He did an average a 1200 the number he dry per blang. He did an average a 1200 to good bulbs, while the best 9 could make was around 600 But, Donaldson, was a good sport, after all, and comforted me his comparing this own work with Purdys. Purdy could beat Donaldson two Done in spite of his - Purdys lig hands." They are big avered Danaldson ; but they are

belicate as a girls. The things he can do with those aukenaid-looking hands is amazing " after having attempted to dissed the clouds of gloom that were still darkening my attention brown he switched back to calo chortins lendes, remineling me that when were to Jug alochortus Luteus Concolar that I had out tong excel at one this and another at another with no blame attached to either for failing to keep up with tother. This sounded like good philusophy is o I turned the subject by again suggesting that we go by the store at Keens Bury. Is get the item his sistery wanted. A rather reluctantly agread, and when we came to the turning of point, kept straight shead on the road. However, when we have in sight of the slore. he suddenly stapped, the handed the horses hape to me, "you keep straight on he commanded, until you get a firt past the slore. Then wait for me." With that he took off to the left. as & got nearer the store I saw a woman on the point parch waiting forme with a kodak in her hands all ready to shout. then She gave me one sharp look, then settled back into her chain, while I passed on unkodahed. I waited by my side. "Where" he grow exclaimed "That was a close call ! Did you see her? They have 'en at every resort and they have no respect for any leady - not even their own grandmothers. If I want to pow long hair, that's my business. The may they act one would think that a man with long bain, like that we intended, was a freak. Well, we fooled that me all right !" and I fancied that I beard a quite un- Jonaldson - like chuckle, Home again (Rifle & Camera at Dyout)

See Map- Holes, Multis Stub arius fuffing like a parpoise Son Aan said to take ingloome 9 pertet. Where is yours? State scoffs at un triedman been rich it had withere Jepson greatly annal at note. back to stable The lost in shambers. Then when first thank worses sit down Had lost an toom Stub por Jenson would be along for mite go I remark that no polare in Roud & Ray Planty Model and The Face Jepson catches my before we reach house Can not find cache . Heavy alouds + Thurdor + liften, tet. e. Ladise going down to Tamarache Valley-old cabin there agreed. Knidcalin but Ababergone Bet supper. Sit aroud fire bots bedewith dother an Only 1 saddle blanked each. Before getting to sleep I make plan in case of have an albeled by bear grant of turker near by Lookal watch - 10 lock. By drops coming, Wake Men, Tell theme my plane, they agree, I hard my blanket to study he bely me to rent. P place both blankets, and then call for Jepson, He Jepson Oh well, Set him. Set him get wet if he's so undependent

Water Bust. Jen terms upi & injas a beard. Want ditt say where Makefine he had been, Stub, vereel, "Why not tell in Here we are wel storough, Stub, gleen through megh, I think something must be done to dispel flugher, Hand perich and paperto Stub. Can you show nightoro to make a rectangular trianger, Stub puppled. The www abard making a Maltere Crown. Jep. yfly Like Comande hale I wouldn't have Thought it apyou after all That been doing for your sep healings laughter mint take - so raves alight metines show stub. te have transferse for from to me. Starte for peak, I belief, They go two fart, Slow down. Thick as five pead they foget meaging , I call to them They your for methowine, I'm going to stay here and dry off. The beaut Bek, O.R. of Lay Trail. Z pumbro arrives, We heat, I plan the gel ride of douber, No go, you stay till stable No arnold, you to be horse & go Gober, 2 un. 7 ? going home diff way. To wast . Superies to those . Stub still affish The we get the divide , Lecture on fool. ishner of humoring the nage, Readsh, steep part. Horse sits after 3rd try Stub, gives my, Papeloging beelebres your wes menaged

3-line stanzas B. 3 - Sugaran seralch Match at Hotel greeted by Whin North Etch no info. Dance, Mant dance, Stub. difack Come anyhow, So, Stuby I wallflaipack Walty begins, as complex whire hyguackies are astoud et the Jep. Walling Mis Towner both so engaged taching to wall is the set along the set of the set along the set of the us to keep our months shut !!